

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicants:** K. AOTA, et al.

**Application No.:** Divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/820,231, filed March 18, 1997

**Filed:** On even date herewith

**For:** FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD AND STRUCTURE BODY

**Art Group in Parent:** 3635

**Examiner in Parent:** R. Canfield

**CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 23, 2003

Sir:

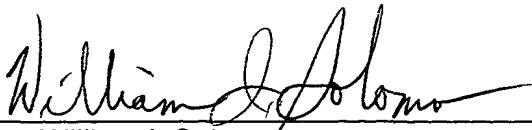
Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 8-62491, filed in Japan on March 19, 1996.

A certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese Patent Application was submitted on March 18, 1997 in prior U.S. Application Serial No. 08/820,231, filed March 18, 1997.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 503.35255VX9).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By   
William I. Solomon  
Reg. No. 28,565

WIS/dlt/led  
Tel.: (703) 312-6600  
Fax: (703) 312-6666